

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 25-47 are all the claims currently pending. Claims 25-28, 31, 37, and 38 are amended. Claim 47 is newly added. No claims are canceled. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following comments, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims is anticipated.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 25-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,608,903 to Miyazaki *et al.* ("Miyazaki"). Although Applicants disagree with this rejection because Miyazaki does not disclose all of the claimed features, the claims have been amended, without prejudice, to clarify the differences between Miyazaki and the claimed invention.

More specifically, claim 25 has been amended to recite, among other things, M transducers, arranged to at least partially surround an equivalent sound source, for emitting the modified sound field, the M transducers being oriented away from the equivalent sound source so as to emit the modified sound field outwardly from the equivalent sound source. Claim 37 has been amended to include emitting the modified sound field using M transducers that are arranged to at least partially surround an equivalent sound source, the M transducers being oriented away from the equivalent sound source so as to emit the modified sound field outwardly from the equivalent sound source, among other things.

Miyazaki does not disclose using transducers that are oriented away from an equivalent sound source to emit a sound field outwardly from the equivalent sound source. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 25 and 37 should be withdrawn. Claims 26-36 and 38-47 depend from corresponding ones of claims 25 and 37, and therefore, are allowable based on their dependency as well as for the features that they add to claims 25 and 37.

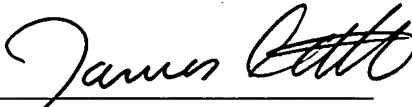
Patent Application
Attorney Docket No. 027966-0311351
Reply

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

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